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Contact

Melissa Weber, Director of Communications
Phone: 320-589-6414, weberm@morris.umn.edu

Jenna Ray, Editor/Writer
Phone: 320-589-6068, jrray@morris.umn.edu

Morris's Sustainability Team Joins Climate Leadership Summit

Summary: The team will accept Morris's 2014 Second Nature Climate Leadership Award.

(September 29, 2014)-University of Minnesota, Morris Chancellor Jacqueline R. Johnson, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Facilities Lowell Rasmussen, and Sustainability Director Troy Goodnough will be in Boston, Massachusetts, October 1–3 for the 2014 Presidential Summit on Climate Leadership. The summit will bring together more than 250 college and university leaders from across the United States to focus on strengthening campus climate action and sustainability initiatives as well as higher education's role in developing strategic responses to climate and sustainability challenges in community, regional, and national contexts.

While at the summit, the team will accept Morris's [2014 Second Nature Climate Leadership Award](#), which it earned late last spring. The awards are presented annually to American College & University Presidents' Climate Commitment (ACUPCC) signatory institutions that demonstrate innovative and advanced leadership in education for sustainability and climate mitigation and adaptation. This year, the award program's fifth, drew the most competitive pool of nominations to date.

"A commitment to green energy and environmental sustainability is embedded in the philosophies and practice of what we do: our academics, our research, and the way we manage our facilities on campus," says Chancellor Jacqueline R. Johnson. "This national recognition affirms that commitment, and we are pleased to represent Morris at this prestigious and relevant event."

Convened by Second Nature, Inc. the supporting organization for the ACUPCC, the summit reflects the centrality of higher education's role in preparing new generations to meet the challenges of climate change. The program focuses on ways to build on the success of climate action plans and sustainability initiatives on ACUPCC campuses and develop solutions to the most pressing environmental problems facing our communities. For more information, visit secondnature.org/resources/summit-2014.

About Second Nature:

Second Nature works to create a healthy, just, and sustainable society beginning with the transformation of higher education. It is the supporting organization of the ACUPCC, an intensive partnership among more than 680 higher education institutions committed to climate neutrality. ACUPCC institutions work to accelerate education, research, and community engagement to equip society to re-stabilize the earth's climate while setting an example by eliminating greenhouse gas emissions from their own operations. Learn more at secondnature.org and presidentsclimatecommitment.org.

Through personal and academic discovery, the University of Minnesota, Morris provides opportunities for students to grow intellectually, engage in community, experience environmental stewardship and celebrate diversity. A renewable and sustainable educational experience, Morris prepares graduates for careers, for advanced degrees, for lifelong learning, for work world flexibility in the future, and for global citizenship. Learn more about Morris at morris.umn.edu or call 888-866-3382.